

The
Parishioner
YARPOLE LUCTON CROFT BIRCHER BICTON

November 2023

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And all our regular features



PENTABUS

ThickSkin

DRIFTWOOD

A new play by Tim Foley



‘...one of British theatre’s unsung treasures.’

The Guardian

Yarpole

Sat 18 November 2023

Parish Hall

7.00pm

HR6 0BE

Tickets: £12 / FREE tickets for Under 25s

(limited availability)

(CC) Integrated Creative Captions

Booking: www.artsalive.co.uk | 01568 780849

Thanks to Diane Hill, Yarpole’s new tree warden, for the photo on the front page of the oak trees in the field at the end of Croft Crescent. See Di’s article on page 12 about her new role.

From the Editor's chair

It is with a very heavy heart that I start work on this newsletter, following the recent news of Brian's death. Brian was a lovely man, and will be missed so much by everyone who knew him. Personally, I shall miss his friendship and our partnership of many years as joint editors of The Parishioner. We are hoping to print an obituary for Brian next month.

It has been a very sad time in the parish with a number of deaths recently. The Parishioner likes to print obituaries of parishioners who are no longer with us; it is a very good way to help others remember old friends. We would encourage friends of those who have died to consider writing an obituary to send in to The Parishioner. Do be sure to check with surviving spouses, or other family members, that they would welcome this.

Nobody has yet agreed to take on the role of joint editor. I'm happy to continue for the time being doing every issue, but it would be very demanding to commit to this in the long-term. During this (hopefully brief!) time that I am doing every month, I shall have to be strict about allocating time to it so it doesn't take over my life! Can I ask for contributors to help me in the following ways:

- Please be patient if I seem less responsive and don't answer emails so quickly - I will always acknowledge them eventually.
- Please get copy to me by our deadline of the **10th** of the previous month. It is a great help if I know what material I've got as soon as I start work on the next edition.
- Sometimes there will be a good reason why you can't submit copy by the deadline, maybe because you are waiting for the outcome of a meeting. In this case please let me know when you will be able to get it to me and, if possible, roughly how long it will be.
- If you are a regular contributor and you are not going to be submitting copy, please let me know so I don't save your space.

It would be wonderful if you can help in these ways, but of course if you get some late news that needs to be included, please don't hesitate to send it in. I can always squeeze in a **short** 'stop press' and it is important that the newsletter is as up to date as possible.

Many thanks.

Hetty

To send in articles and news **items, please e-mail us at:**
newsletter@yarpole.org
Or leave in the box at the shop

The deadline for all submissions is
THE 10th OF THE PREVIOUS MONTH

There is no newsletter in January or August

Stay in touch: Yarpole WhatsApp Group

Enjoy chatting and sharing photos with members of our community via the Yarpole Whatsapp group. We now have over 90 members!



To join this group, please send a message to:
Katie Daniels 07786515922 with your mobile number.



Don't miss out on what's happening!

To be added to the events mailing list, email:
events@yarpole.org.



Calling Facebook Users

To obtain Yarpole news on Facebook, search for 'Yarpole Community'.
See what's on! See what matters in Yarpole! Contribute to the page.
Like us and become a friend.



The Parishioner on audio disk

The Parishioner is also available as an audio disk for parish residents with sight problems. If you'd like to receive it in this format, or know someone who would, please let us know at newsletter@yarpole.org.



Yarpole Welcome Packs

If you are aware of new residents who have moved to the parish, don't forget to inform Sue Langley to be sure they receive a pack. Email susanmarylangley@gmail.com.

ADVERTISEMENTS

To place a commercial advert in The Parishioner, please email newsletter@yarpole.org and we'll send you more information

Prices start at £5 for a 1/8 page ad, with discounts for multiple insertions

We also print small ads for parishioners for which we suggest that a small donation is left in the yellow collection box in the shop.

Disclaimer

Please bear in mind that while adverts are our main source of income, The Parishioner accepts these in good faith and does not endorse the advertisers or the products/services that they offer.

What's on

What's on

MADE IN HRG

IS BACK!

After a four year break Yarpole's popular festive

Art and Craft Fair

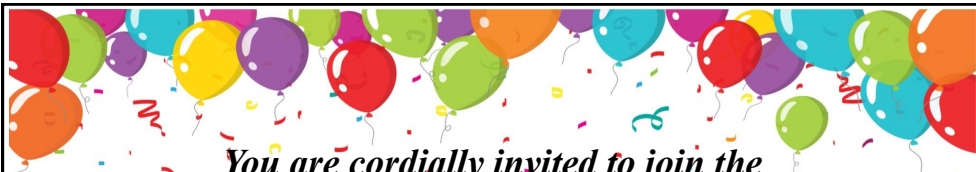
will be held on **Saturday and Sunday 25th & 26th November** at **St Leonard's**.

10:30 am – 4:00 pm

**Come and browse the wide range of hand-made items –
Just in time for Christmas!**

Free admission

Gallery Café and Yarpole Community shop open both days



*You are cordially invited to join the
90th
Birthday Celebrations for
Audrey Bott, Janet Chitham & Sarah Stafford.
Wednesday November 29th
St. Leonard's Church
Afternoon Tea
3-5pm*

Act of Remembrance - Lucton War Memorial

Sunday 12th Nov, 2023

We shall meet at the Memorial at 10.55 for a short Act of Remembrance.

All Welcome

What's on

What's on



Bonfire & Fireworks Night

Saturday 4th November 2023
6pm at Lucton School

Free Entry: Donations welcome
Refreshments available



COMMUNAL CRAFTERS



Next meeting

Monday, 20th November, 2.30pm
In the Gallery Cafe, St. Leonards, Yarpole
£3 per session.

Everyone very welcome - we are a friendly group
who meet once a month to craft together and
enjoy a good chat !!

We look forward to welcoming you !



What's on



What's on

What's Love Got To Do With It?

Cert: 12a - 109 mins



Sat 9th Dec - 7.30 pm

Yarpole Parish Hall

Admission: Adults: £13 Child: £10

Enquiries: 01568 780250 and 07495 437359

This is a Flicks and Food presentation. Film £5; Food £8.

Food must be booked before. You can just see the film if you wish. Film starts at 7.30pm, meal served at 6.30pm

A British romantic comedy about a filmmaker who decides to document her best friend's journey toward arranged marriage.

Starring: Lily James, Emma Thompson, Shazad Latif



Quick reminder - most of the films that have been shown at Flicks are now available to borrow from the parish hall library whenever the building is open for an event.

What's on

What's on



Walking Group

We meet regularly on the 2nd Friday and 4th Sunday of every month, normally at 10:30 by the church.

November walks: Friday 3rd and Sunday 19th

Please note change from normal pattern to avoid clash with
Made in HR6

All are welcome to join our walks but please phone to check details, if you are not on the email list.

Contact: Viv 782271 or seiftonbatch@gmail.com

Police Community Support Officer meetings

Our local (Leominster) PCSO Steph Harper aims to visit the Gallery Café every 5 weeks on a Wednesday at 11.00.

Her next visit, is scheduled for Wednesday November 15th. Join her in the café for a coffee and chat.

Pete Lloyd



Come and Be Still



Some music, a reading, a prayer and time for your own quiet reflection.

Monthly, on the first Wednesday, 5.30 - 6pm

St Leonard's Church, Yarpole

All are welcome

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cracked heel care, diabetic foot care.

For more information or to book an
appointment please call:

01568 368306 or 07540566871

Registered with the British Association of Foot Health
Professionals

What's on

What's on



**Orleton Village
Handmade & Gift Fair**

AT ORLETON VILLAGE HALL
Saturday 11th November

FREE ENTRY 10AM - 3PM

SHOP GIFTS & LOCAL PRODUCE

Christmas made easy!



**BROWSE 30 STALLS
MUSICAL ENTERTAINMENT
CHILDREN'S MAKE & TAKE
CRAFT TOMBOLA
REFRESHMENTS ☕**

For more details
Email Nicki & Sue at orletonhandmade@gmail.com



**Orleton Evergreens
Autumn 2023**

November 30th:
Steve Hollinghurst,
Festive Songs

December 7th:
Christmas Meal
(venue to be confirmed)

*All welcome (50+).
Hall meetings at Orleton
Village Large Hall 2.30pm.
Further details contact Sue
Turner 01584 831324.
sue.a.turner@gmail.com.*



Orleton Craft Group

*We are now meeting twice monthly:
2nd & 16th Nov
(First and Third Thursdays).*

*Orleton Village Small Hall, 1.30-4.30pm, £3.
Bring along any sewing, knitting, craft work.
Enjoy a chat, tea & cake!*

*We plan to include workshops from time to time
All welcome*

Further information 01584 831324 sue.a.turner@gmail.com



Computer Café

I have been asked to report that the Computer Café has finished for now, but it is hoped to start it up again in the future. Watch this space! Ed

What's on

What's on

Arts Society lectures

Lively and interesting illustrated lectures on arts-related topics at Ludlow Assembly Rooms, 2.15 on the 3rd Wednesday of the month. Lectures from nationally recognised experts take about one hour.

**Wed 15th November 2023: The Art of the Car - and the Car as Art.
Julian Richards.**

Visitors are welcome, paying £8.00 on the door. Membership, which buys you eight lectures and reduced fees for outings and study days, costs £45.

More information: www.theartsocietytemevalley.org.uk.

For help with transport contact:

Membership Secretary Jeff Walker on **01694 781489**



accompanied by the **Bannau Brycheiniog Chamber Orchestra**, with soloists **Eleanor Bosworth, Susanna Spicer, Simon Harper and Fearghus Cooper**,

**Kington Choral's winter concert - MOZART's REQUIEM in D minor
Saturday 18 November in St. Andrew's, Presteigne, 7.30pm.**

The evening will include Mozart's Ave Verum and Sancta Maria, and an orchestra performance of Eine Kleine Nachtmusik.

The Requiem in D minor was his final work - he died before completing it. He was only 35. Mozart's Requiem is a choral masterpiece written for a patron who had lost his young wife to illness earlier in 1791. But after his death, his widow, Constanze claimed that throughout Mozart's last painful days he believed he was writing the Requiem for his own funeral. And he was! Even though it had to be completed by his contemporaries, the circumstances of the composition, combined with Mozart's genius, make it no ordinary piece of music.

Reserve your tickets now at www.trybooking.com
or through the KCS website www.kingtonchoral.org.uk.



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LOCAL NEWS AND NOTICES

Thank you

Brenda and the entire Bashford family would like to thank all those who attended Michael's funeral. The turnout was heartwarming and a true testament to the esteem in which he was held.

The kindness and help afforded in recent months has been greatly appreciated by Brenda and the family.

Thank you!

May I and the family thank everyone in the Yarpole community who has given and offered us support over the last few weeks. We have been overwhelmed by your generosity. We will miss Brian terribly but know that his gentle kindness touched many people.

Brian was a very special person to us but we were unaware of how much he was loved by the residents of Yarpole. Brian had the foresight to consider a move from Seifton Batch some nine years ago. We didn't hesitate in choosing Yarpole

We never regretted our move and I know that Brian found happiness here.

Thank you all so so much.

Viv Mitchel

Advent Calendar Windows 2023

Would you like to decorate an advent window for Christmas? We have been doing these in the village for 3 years. 25 households create a Christmas-themed window display, one for each day of advent. It is lovely to walk round the village and see the new windows pop up each day. A map of the window locations is produced and last year we had walking Christmas carol singing taking in the windows.

We would like to encourage new villagers to take part this year as well as regulars. Get in touch with me and I will allocate a number and you then design your window and reveal it on that numbered date. So that late numbers can be seen for longer, anyone allocated a number 15 or over can reveal it on the 15th. We hope to see lots of new interest.



To participate this year, please email Katie Daniels, ktd2561@gmail.com

LOCAL NEWS AND NOTICES

Tree Warden – Diane Hill

I have just taken on the role of Yarpole Tree Warden so I thought I would take the opportunity to introduce myself.

Firstly, this is not something I have done before, it is voluntary, I am by no means the expert but I will do my best. I do know my Sweet Chestnut from a Horse Chestnut but I look forward to expanding my knowledge meeting the other tree wardens and attending some training sessions.

The role is an evolving one. I have very much got to work out what I should be doing or indeed what I can do to enhance the love of trees in others.

At the moment I have been asked by the Parish Council to comment on any planning applications concerning trees in our conservation areas. If you have put in an application, I will try to pop round for a chat and view the tree.

There are about 500 Tree Preservation Orders (TPOs) in Herefordshire, some of which are in the parish, I will make myself familiar with them; there are some truly magnificent trees in the area.

I will look to share any knowledge either through the parishioner or, perhaps, events.

There is one Tree Officer for the whole of Herefordshire, Oliver Kaye, and whilst I will obviously try to support him, all applications etc still need to be done through the council processes.

<https://www.herefordshire.gov.uk/conservation-1/tree-preservation/2>

Should you wish to contact me, please e mail on Hilldc09@gmail.com



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Unaffordable bills?
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energy-saving
home improvements**

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LOCAL NEWS AND NOTICES

Look after our hedgehogs



Autumn has set in and bonfire parties for Halloween and Guy Fawkes will have been planned. May I make a plea for our hedgehog friends? They love to make their nests in bonfire stacks and risk being killed when the fire is lit. Please disturb the woodpile and have a thorough search for any prickly tenants who may have taken up residence. Hedgehogs numbers have become seriously depleted in recent years.

Please do your bit to help ensure their survival.

Lynn Ashton

Email addresses for Yarpole Groups

If any group in Yarpole, such as the Church, Parish Hall would like a separate email address this is something which is easy to set up @yarpole.org.

The Newsletter and Events use this facility. It has the advantage of not needing a personal email address which needs changing when the responsible person leaves.

Any address at yarpole.org is possible. (eg volunteering@yarpole.org).

If you would like to make use of this facility please contact me at julianstokes@gmx.com.



THE BELL

at Yarpole

A few people have asked why The Bell booking advert was still in the newsletter last month, even though it had closed. At the time of going to print, the tenants were still in place and there was every hope that the pub would be opening again, in which case the booking information would have been relevant. It was only after the newsletter was printed that we heard the disappointing news that the tenancy had sadly come to an end. Ed

Maths Tutor

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LOCAL NEWS AND NOTICES

Yarpole Village Seasonal Recipe Book

A merry band of enthusiastic Yarpole volunteers is creating a new seasonal recipe book and is looking for tasty recipes for starters, main courses and desserts. So we are hoping that you will seek out your favourite seasonal recipes along with any background information about the author or history of the recipe, eg. Grandma's special roast duck, as well as interesting anecdotes, poetry and facts to bring extra life to the recipe book.



How can I contribute?

Please place your recipes in the special drop box in the church, outside the village shop or email them to gordon.ewing@icloud.com. We plan to launch the new seasonal recipe book in the Spring so please let us have your recipes and other contributions by November 15th 2023. We cannot guarantee that your recipe(s) will be included but thank you in advance for helping us. Please place your name and contact details on each recipe, in case we need to check something. A suggestion as to which season you think the recipe suits would also be helpful,

All proceeds will go to the Parochial Church Council and St Leonard's Management to protect our beautiful historic church and enhance our village's future.

YARPOLE EDUCATIONAL TRUST

Up to 24

Any young person aged less than 25 years and living in the ancient parish of Yarpole (Yarpole, Bircher, Bircher Common, Croft, Bicton) may apply to the charitable trust for a grant.

The trust may assist eligible candidates with fees and costs associated with secondary and tertiary education as well as with initial professional training. Support can be given towards a wide variety of needs such as:

- * tuition fees
- * tools & equipment
- * course books & software
- * costs toward school/college trips or independent travel of an educational nature.

The trustees meet three or four times a year to consider applications. Applications should be received three months before the grant is needed, although urgent cases will be considered.

For further information or to request an application form please contact The Trust Secretary on 01568 780945 or by email: yarpoletrust@gmail.com.

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Ring Nina 07375 520 646

Grafted Apple trees

2-3 year old named dessert, cookers, cider varieties
In pots - £20 (discount for bulk)

Trees in pots are easy to look after until you've decided where to plant them!

Discovery, Ashmead's Kernel, Russets, and many more...

Root stock: M25 vigorous; M111 & M106 semi-vigorous

Advice on tree/orchard management also provided

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CERTASS *let the sun shine in...*





YARPOLE COMMUNITY SHOP NEWS



November 2023

Our shop in the news

Following a recommendation from Plunkett (the national charity supporting community business) we will be hosting a visit from SkyTV on November the 6th.

To quote Sky “The filming will be for a short feature video going out around December time looking at what's happening to historic church buildings as religious congregations decline”. The main question the video piece will ask is: 'Are Britain's abandoned church buildings worth saving?'

They are interested in our story and how we came to be the first in the country to have a full-time shop in a church that was still being used for worship and how our church building remains at the heart of the community.

Somebody will be with us for most of the day and talking to several of us involved in both shop, café and church.

The final short film may then make their national news as well as online, etc.

If you are around that day feel free to pop down - you may be on the telly!

And in other news we were also invited recently to take part in a webinar, again organised by Plunkett, to share our story along with the recently opened Amberley shop near Stroud.

There were 46 people from rural churches around England and Scotland who had signed up to hear our stories as they are thinking about how they might use their, mainly rural, church buildings differently alongside worship.

OK so it's a bit early but - planning ahead

Christmas is now very firmly on the horizon and as such you now need to ensure that your cards and presents get there on time!

Last Posting Dates for Christmas (UK)

Monday 18 December

2nd Class

2nd Class Signed For

Tuesday 19 December

1st Class

1st Class Signed For

Friday 22 December

Special Delivery Guaranteed® (Guaranteed Saturday delivery for an extra fee)

Last Posting Dates for Christmas (abroad)

Tuesday 5 December

Africa, Central and South America, Asia, Australia, Caribbean, China (People's Republic), Far and Middle East, New Zealand

Wednesday 6 December

Cyprus and Malta

Thursday 7 December

Austria, Belgium, Denmark, Eastern Europe (except Czech Republic and Poland), France, Germany, Greece, Iceland, Ireland, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, Slovakia, Spain, Switzerland, Turkey

Friday 8 December

Canada, Czech Republic, Finland, Italy, Poland, Sweden, USA

Turkeys and other things

Tudge Meats who are based in Richards Castle will once again be supplying us with their excellent turkeys, and everything else Christmas meat-related, from pigs in blankets and sausagemeat to hams, pork chops and bacon.

Please come into the shop to collect your order form or look online at the shop page on yarpole.org and download a copy.

Orders can either be handed in at the shop or e-mailed to yarpoleshop@mail.com. Deadline for turkey orders is usually the first week in December and for pork products the second week - so time to think and plan but do please confirm this by contacting the shop if you are deciding later in November onwards as we are unable to confirm exact dates at the time of going to press.

Should you want to reserve any of our speciality breads, Clun cheeses, Wyre Pies or fruit and vegetables from Cherries and Berries ready for Christmas, please ensure your order is e-mailed or handed into the shop no later than Friday 8th December.

We will remind again on ordering and stock arrivals in The Parishioner December issue as well as list our opening times over the festive period.

Jon & Rowena

SHOP AND POST OFFICE OPENING HOURS

	Shop	Post Office
Monday - Friday	9am - 5pm	9am - 12noon
Saturday	9am - 1pm	9am - 12noon
Sunday/Bank Holidays	closed except for pre-ordered newspapers	

Tel: 01568 780148 E-mail: yarpoleshop@mail.com

Website: www.yarpole.com

CHURCH MATTERS

November 2023



Recent weeks have been full of news of terrible violence and suffering in the Middle East. The conflict there has been going on for many years and the events that are unfolding this week do not give much prospect of things improving any time soon. I can't help thinking that the only way this will end will be if one side has the courage not to retaliate. It brings to mind St Matthews Gospel verses 39-40:-

"if anyone hits you on the right cheek, offer him the other as well"

Turning the other cheek is hard, it requires courage, the ability to forgive, and faith that good can prevail. Let us pray that in all conflicts within the world there are those who are willing to turn the other cheek and work for peace.

Prayer for a world in need

*There's trouble in the fields, Lord,
The crops are parched and dry.
We water them with tears, Lord,
So help us, hear our cry.*

*There's trouble in our hearts, Lord,
The World is full of pain.
Set us to work for healing,
Send blessings down like rain.*

Lois Rock

All Souls Day Remembrance

On Thursday 2nd November, from 5:30 to 6:00, there will be a time of prayer in St Leonard's Church, Yarpole, to remember those whom we have lost. During the service, all the names written in the book which has been available on the bier for the last fortnight will be read out.

Jane Higgins



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FREE TO ANYONE WHO NEEDS IT**

**Morris Mews, High Street, Leominster
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Tea, cake, entertainment – and a chance to meet the team

St Leonard's is your church, and St Leonard's Management runs the building on your behalf. Do you know what we're responsible for? Do you understand where the money comes from and how it's spent? Are you confused about the difference between St Leonard's Management and the PCC? We're organising a 'meet the team' session on **Sunday November 5th, 3pm** where you can find out the answers to all these questions and more. If you've got anything you'd like to ask about how we operate, or if you have suggestions about how you'd like to see the church building maintained and developed for the community, come along on **Sunday November 5th, 3pm**.

Afterwards – and this is the important bit! - we'll be serving tea & cake, and some local talent will be entertaining us. For more information visit our website, www.stleonardsyarpole.com, or email Andrew Prail (enmorevet@outlook.com) or Sue Russell (suetrustee@btinternet.com)

We'll look forward to seeing you on **5th November at 3pm** in the church.



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PARISH HALL

November 2023

Programme for November 2023

Regular Weekly Activities

Mondays	Zumba	6.00 - 7.00 pm
	Yoga	7.30 - 8.30 pm
Tuesdays	Tai Chi	10.00 - 11.00 am
	Pilates	6.00 - 7.00 pm
Wednesdays	Tai Chi	10.00 - 11.00 am
	Art	2.00 - 4.30 pm
Thursdays	Pilates	10.45 - 11.45 am
Fridays	Bowls	7.30 - 9.30 pm

Other Events in November

Tues 7th	Yarpole Group Parish Council meeting	7.00 pm
Sun 12th	Private event	9.00 am - 4.00 pm
Sat 18th	Arts Alive Theatre - Driftwood	7.00 pm
Friday 24th	The 4 Cs	11.00 am

**To make a booking please contact Amanda Hordern
01568 701996 / amandahordern@aol.com. Or go to www.yarpole.com
and click on 'Church & Parish Hall Bookings' to book online.
If you are interested in joining one of the classes, please email Amanda who
will put you in touch with the class organiser.**



Don't forget that books can still be taken out from the parish hall library whenever the building is open for an event. Just sign in the book and there is no time limit.

DVDs and bluerays of recent Flicks films are also available to borrow.



PARISH HALL

November 2023

200 Club

The 200 club winning numbers for October were:-

41 £50, 13 £20, 115 £15, 92 £10.

Good luck in the next draw.

Pete Lloyd

200 Club Plea!



We are still looking for a volunteer to take on responsibility for our Parish Hall 200 club – **can you help us please?**

Although we'd like someone to take on overall responsibility, you'd be well supported by others, with the work being shared. You'd be responsible for:

- holding the lucky number draw (probably in the café) and distributing the winnings
- submitting a return each quarter to the lottery commission
- collecting subscriptions once a year with support from the team.

Don't worry if you're not especially computer literate, as long as you can email, you don't really have to do anything else to fulfil the role.

If you think you might be able to help and would like to know more about it, please ring Jill on 01568 780250 or email jill13.grant@gmail.com and we could meet up for an informal chat to see what you think.

Look forward to hearing from you – PLEASE!

Jill Grant & Parish Hall Committee

Flicks and Food

Thank you to everyone who supported the *Mrs. Harris Goes To Paris* evening at the Parish Hall - a really great record turn out!

Future flicks and food dates for your diary are:

Saturday 9th December - What's Love Got To Do With It?

Saturday 10th February - Living.

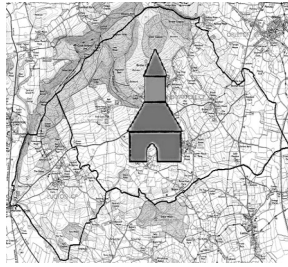
Saturday 6th April - film to be confirmed.

Please remember to book food in advance as we did get fully booked for this last occasion and had to start a waiting list. Food is served at 6.30pm and the film starts at 7.30pm.

Look forward to seeing you.

Parish Hall Committee & Yarpole Flicks

Yarpole Group Parish Council November 2023



On Tuesday 3 October 2023 Councillor Audrey Bott was elected Chairman following the resignation, as Chairman only, of Councillor Linda Middleton. Linda was thanked for her chairmanship since September 2021.

The draft Budget for 2024/25 will be discussed at the November meeting and finalised at the December meeting. If you are interested in how the precept is spent, please do come along.

The metal estate fencing around the graveyard at Lucton needs to be repaired. Due to a lack of funds, this cannot be completed by the Parochial Church Council (PCC) unless a grant is available from the Parish Council. The PCC expressed its gratitude for maintenance support from the Parish Council and individual voluntary efforts. The Ford at Lucton was also discussed. A meeting is to be arranged to consider options to decrease flooding.

Receipt of the Bircher Common Management Plan from the National Trust was noted. It was reported that members of the Bircher Common Graziers Committee are in touch with The National Trust and no further action was agreed.

Herefordshire Council will be asked for a gate for the junction of Public Right of Way YP12 and Croft Lane. It was noted that landowners are responsible for maintaining gates and stiles, and they are encouraged to contact the Herefordshire Council Public Right of Way team if one has been damaged. For further information please contact the clerk.

A seesaw has been added to the playground, and the Chairman proposed a vote of thanks to Cllrs Cadwallader, Daniels, and Praill for their work on the Community Meadow.

A working group is to be set up to assess the efficacy of the Neighbourhood Development Plan, and to consider topics not covered in the Plan e.g., solar panel arrays.

Three planning applications were considered. P232595/K - Works to Trees in a **Conservation Area** for the felling of a birch tree was supported; having considered additional documents, no objection was raised to P204317/F Re-consultation on Land at Bicton House, Bicton, for a Proposed detached affordable dwelling and garage/workshop.

It was agreed to comment on application P232729/AM - Non Material Amendment Land adjacent to Maunds House and a letter has been sent highlighting objections and concerns. Since the meeting, it has been explained that applications for Non-Material Amendments are made when an applicant is seeking determination from the Local Planning Authority, under the provision of Section 96A of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990, as to whether or not the changes proposed are non-material in nature.

The Local Planning Authority (Herefordshire Council) is under no obligation to consult the public or the Parish Council for applications made under Section 96A. This explains why the Parish Council, and members of public, were precluded from commenting on this application.

Works at Maund House in the Conservation Area were discussed as concerns were raised that permissions had not been granted for a new garage and for works to a tree. Advice received from Planning Enforcement is that permission is required, and the owner has been informed. Planning Enforcement has also contacted Herefordshire Council's Tree Officer.

Upcoming meeting dates Tuesdays 7 November, and 5 December, 7.30 pm at The Parish Hall. There is no scheduled meeting in January 2024. Residents are encouraged to attend and may speak at the start of the meeting.

Mrs Maggie Brown clerk@yarpolegroupparishcouncil.gov.uk



Gallery Café, Saint Leonard's, Yarpole

Tasty Tuesday at the Gallery Café

Back by popular demand is our monthly hot lunch event. One Tuesday a month we will be producing a menu to include a home-cooked hearty lunch and a dessert along with a hot drink. Places will be limited so please book early.

1pm, Tuesday 14th November

Main course:

Cheese and Leek Pie served with buttered new potatoes and seasonal vegetables.

Dessert:

Apple crumble or choose from our cake selection

1pm, Tuesday 5th December

Main course:

Festive Sausage and mash served with red cabbage, onion gravy and cranberry sauce

Dessert:

Yule bread and butter pudding

£12.95 for a main course and hot drink, £14.95 for both courses and a hot drink

To book please email: gallerycafe@yarpole.org or call the café during opening hours on 01568 780594 or drop in to see us in person.

Regular Opening times:

Monday - Wednesday: 10.30 - 12.30 for drinks, homemade cakes and scones.

Thursday and Friday: 10.30 - 15:30 with light lunch to eat in or takeaway, between 12.00 and 2.00pm.

Saturday Brunch: 10.30 - 12.30 for our tasty bacon rolls, croissants and the famous "revved up" cheese scones.

Payments accepted in cash and card.

Check www.yarpole.org, WhatsApp,

Yarpole Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/GalleryCafeYarpole/>
and the noticeboard for updated information and events.

MORTIMER MEDICAL PRACTICE

Patients' Participation Group (PPG) November 2023

Access

More pre-bookable after-5pm appointments have been released for GP's and the Physician Associate.

24/7 Automated Dispensing

A trial one may be installed at Kingsland first. It is not replacing the dispensary but is about enhancing the service that is already provided. Feedback has been positive from other surgeries using this in rural practices. It would allow 24/7 collection, reduce the waiting times outside the dispensary and would increase access for those who cannot visit the dispensary during normal opening times. It would also allow collections at w/e's and bank holidays. This would be as secure as an ATM with a 24/7 callout should there be a breakdown.

1kg of medication can be loaded for a single patient into the automated box (bagged). This is scanned and the code to access the medication is sent via mobile phone to the patient. This is typed in on the touchpad on the box and the medication released. Payment would have to be set up by card reader or pre-payment. It does depend on having access to a mobile phone. The Practice is looking into whether an email address would work. It will not load controlled drugs.

The Practice is NOT forcing people to use it. It is an OPT-IN ONLY and will not suit all patients. They would like FEEDBACK - please feel free to contact me with your views.

Next PPG meeting is January 25th.

Gilly Lloyd 01568 780328 gillymi.lloyd@yahoo.com



**St Michael's
Hospice**

Recognition for volunteer team behind St Michael's Hospice garden

Members of the gardening team at St Michael's Hospice have transformed the 1.5 acre plot in Bartestree. Their efforts over the past three years have seen them receive a Landscape Award which was presented during the Heart of England in Bloom Awards held in Sutton Coldfield.



There are around 40 volunteer gardeners, who meet each Wednesday to carry out a variety of roles across the Hospice grounds. The gardening team at St Michael's is currently full to capacity, but other volunteer positions are available.

Find out more at

www.st-michaels-hospice.org.uk/volunteering-vacancies

NB St Michael's Hospice has provided support for a number of our parishioners recently and it is to be hoped that they gained some solace from this beautiful garden.

See colour photo on page 39

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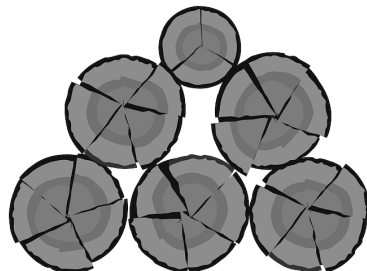
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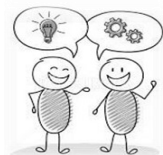
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Yarpole Parish

Good Neighbour Scheme



Yarpole Talk
Community

Yarpole Parish Good Neighbour Scheme held its AGM on 10th October and there was a great turn out, with the Committee, volunteers and some clients joining us!

We reviewed our activities across the last couple of years, which showed that we are well supported and regularly used in the parish, clearly demonstrating a need for a continuing scheme. The finance review demonstrated that although we do receive donations towards expenses, we are not covering our costs; please look out for future funding initiatives and events, which will be advertised in The Parishioner and on the website.

We enjoyed some lively discussion and ended the meeting with the traditional tea and cake. Thank you very much to everyone who contributed to the AGM in any way, to the new volunteers who have come forward, and special thanks were given to Barbara Nurse, who was a founder of the Scheme and has contributed to the welfare of Yarpole as a volunteer and coordinator for almost ten years.

If you need us or want to join us, the number is above – we will be glad to hear from you either way!

The 4 Cs

We are already looking forward to our meetings into the New Year, with speakers already booked for our 4th-Friday meetings in the Parish Hall, 11a.m. till noon.

November 24th Linda McKinley will tell us about her work with blind and visually impaired children.

Early December (date to be confirmed) a miscellany of carols and Christmas music, with children from local schools.

February 24th Ruth Elphick will tell us about her experience in making pots, her passion for many years.

March 22nd Our local BEE LADY, Meriet Duncan, will give us the benefit of her love of bees. She is a published author and authority on beekeeping.

Come and join us, for 4Cs, COMPANY, CHAT, COFFEE AND CAKE, always lots of cake. If you would like to join our band of helpers, just come along, or ring:

Avis on 780874 or Val 780807

If you need a lift, ring one of the above.



THE CHURCH
OF ENGLAND

Diocese of Hereford

November 2023

Each year, the Royal British Legion's Remembrance Festival focuses on a different aspect of honouring those who have served the Crown and country in the armed forces. This year the theme is Service, not just of those deployed on active service, but the unseen service of those who love them. We're encouraged to remember the impact that their absence, and their homecoming, can have not just on the service personnel but on their loved ones.

Those are the hidden costs of serving in the armed forces. Those at home, whether they be parents, partners, spouses, or children, carry a load of anxiety for their loved one. There's the weight of managing without them and then of re-shaping lives and routines around them when they return. If they return, of course. If not, there's the burden of grief which will be carried life-long.

If they do return, they're forever changed by what they've experienced in combat or on peacekeeping duties. They may carry physical and mental scars, and not know how to express them except among their comrades, who don't need words because they just get it, because they've seen and heard and smelled the same things. That can have an impact on loved ones too.

I often tell the story in Remembrance services of a man I knew in my home church who had been a prisoner of war in Burma during World War II. He'd seen and experienced unimaginable things but would never talk to his wife about them. He didn't want to. He didn't want those images to be spoken of in his home back in England. They weren't to invade that precious space, that haven. But that didn't mean he'd forgotten, or that those memories didn't trouble him. He and his wife learned to live with them, and with the fact that some things just remained unspoken.

Perhaps in this year's season of Remembrance, as well as remembering and giving thanks for the sacrifice of those who fought and died in service of our nation and of peace, we can also remember to pray for those still serving now, for those who love them and support them, and for healing of the seen and unseen scars of war.

God of healing and of peace, in whose service is perfect freedom, we hold before you those who serve our nation in His Majesty's Armed Forces, and those who love them.

We pray that during times of separation you would protect their relationships.

We pray that during times of reunion you would ease the transitions and be present in homecomings.

We pray for healing of bodies, minds, and spirits broken by experiences of combat, and for healing of grief for those who will never return.

Hold and guard all who serve on behalf of others, and their loved ones, we pray. Amen.

AD Fiona

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ORLETON AND DISTRICT GARDENING CLUB

Plants of the Season

On 26th September ODGC welcomed Paul Green of Green's Leaves Nursery, Gloucestershire. Paul arrived with a magnificent array of plants with which to illustrate his talk and to sell.

Paul began by discussing grasses many of which come into their own in the autumn. These add structure, form and movement to the garden and when frosted transform the garden into a winter wonderland. They are largely trouble-free apart from thugs like Gardener's Garters which spread rapaciously, though he argued that even this with its green and striped foliage can look very attractive in a sunny spot confined by paving slabs.

Miscanthus thrives in sun or light shade. Varieties such as Skyrocket and Ferner Osten brighten the autumn garden and can be cut down in February or March. Molinia varieties with delicate flower heads add understated elegance to the border and subside gracefully in winter.

Moving on to foliage plants Paul advised against over protection in winter. Some protection is necessary, for example the crowns of Gunnera, but beware wrapping up evergreen Phormium for too long as it will rot.

Fatsias are excellent for shade, particularly the variegated varieties such as 'Camouflage'. Variegated plants generally do better in shade where they avoid scorching.

The underlying theme of Paul's talk was the importance of being selective and choosing named varieties. Hypericum can be a troublesome shrub, spreading quickly and seeding around. However Hypericum 'Berry Red' is a charming dwarf variety with flowers appearing at the same time as the vivid red berries. Similarly many can take or leave the plain pink Japanese anemone with its spreading habit but few can resist 'Dreaming Swan' with its more restrained habit and white petals delicately shaded with mauve or the shorter Fantasy series, growing 14 – 18 inches, filling out but not spreading invasively.

It is well known that gardeners can resist everything except temptation and at the conclusion of Paul's interesting and entertaining talk members and visitors lost no time in converging on his attractive collection of plants.

On Tuesday 28th November Meriet Duncan will be giving a talk entitled '**Creating a buzz about the Honeybee**'.

Meriet began her love affair with honeybees in 2010. She is a local beekeeper who is passionate about educating everyone about bees.

Doors open 7.15pm for 8pm start.

Non-members welcome at £2.50 per person including tea and coffee.

www.orletongardeningclub.co.uk

Annual Membership will rise to £15.00 in January 2024.

The Day I Changed My Name

When I was editing *The Good Food Guide* I needed to visit restaurants incognito, unlike newspaper critics, whose faces are known to everybody in the trade. The danger is that they receive special treatment and don't know what it's like for the ordinary non-celebrity punter, who doesn't get a nice table, special service, and a few little treats along the way.

I, however, was eating and reviewing on behalf of those very people who don't get special treatment, who pay their way and sometimes don't receive the standard of food and service they deserve. What's it like for them? Because my name was known (but not my face) I had to book under a different moniker. A bit shady perhaps, but all in a good cause. I settled on my own initials backwards, using my first name as my last, hence Mr A B James, one I hoped I wouldn't forget. And instead of revealing my identity at the end of a visit – in case I had to return later – I needed to cement the disguise with a credit card in that name. The chequebook, of necessity, would remain as Ainsworth.

This was in the days before identity fraud was common, so no matter that I was asking for a card in the name of a non-existent person, there were no credit reference checks, no passport or driving licence required, just 'sign here.' I was flabbergasted and relieved in equal measure. Such innocent times.

It never occurred to me that I would require a first name, so the A and B were just placeholders, just so long as I could remember my surname. That is, until the proprietor of a small hotel extended his hand in greeting and welcomed me enthusiastically with 'Hello, I'm Richard,' obviously expecting us to be on first-name terms for the duration. I could just have said 'Hello Richard,' and left it at that, but the occasion seemed to require more. 'Er,' I began, running through a list from Arnold to Alfie to Adam to Anthony as quickly as I could. It doesn't do to hesitate over your own first name. I ended up with 'Hello, I'm Arthur.' I have no idea why. I don't think I look like an Arthur, and family members only use it occasionally to tease me.

Another time, having booked into a B&B under my own name (they took cheques but not credit cards) Val and I went by taxi from there to the restaurant (which did take credit cards). I happily settled the bill as Mr James, scrawled a signature on the slip, and congratulated myself on the deception having worked yet again, whilst we waited for the taxi to arrive.

'Taxi for Mr Ainsworth,' bawled the driver as he burst into the restaurant. Oh dear! We slunk out trying not to catch anybody's eye, and hoped any suspicions would be swallowed up in the confusion.

On reflection, I don't think I would have been much use to MI6. Imagine spending years learning German, then going undercover to Berlin as Johann Kriek, to be greeted by 'Ah, we've been expecting you Mr James.'

Limerick Competition

This is embarrassing. I picked the winner – as usual from completely anonymised entries – and it turned out to be Val. Honest. So she gets a glass of wine, because I really don't remember saying that.

I think of myself as quite sporty.
My hubby just gives me a snort. He
Examines my rear,
And says "Oh my dear
It's a feature of life after forty."

Fortunately we have runners-up, from a field of high quality entries:

I think of myself as quite sporty
Although I'm the wrong side of forty.
But my greatest pet hates
Are press-ups and weights.
If I skipped them – would that be so naughty?
(David Cheshire)

I think of myself as quite sporty,
Despite the fact that I'm portly.
I bend at the knees
Give my buttocks a squeeze,
Impressive! I'm twice over forty!
(Rose Sheridan)

Either I shall have to hand over the judging to someone else, or Val will have to stop writing limericks. In any case we shall take a break next time and resume in the New Year.

Jim Ainsworth

Philosophical comments for the month

Experience enables you to recognise a mistake when you do it again.

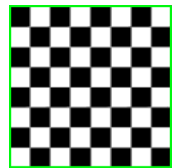
Franklin Jones

Maths challenge

How many squares are there on a chessboard?

Answer below.

Thanks to Gordon Ewing for sending in the maths challenge.



Answer to chess board challenge above

For anyone who likes an even bigger challenge can you work out how many squares and rectangles are there on a chessboard?
There is 1 8x8 square, 4 7x7 squares, 9 6x6 squares, 16 5x5 squares, 25 4x4 squares, 36 3x3 squares, and 49 2x2 squares. So there are a total of 204 squares on a standard 8x8 chessboard.



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We plough the fields and scatter

How much fun can you have with a bucket in the middle of a field? Surprisingly, quite a lot, when you're part of a wildflower seeding party. Last month a group of kind volunteers joined us to help create three new wildflower meadows on our land adjoining Bircher Common.

The project (funded by the National Lottery Heritage Fund) was organised by the charity Buglife in association with Herefordshire Meadows. Work began earlier this year with the preparation of the ground. Sheep were sent in to crop the grass down as low as possible, but by the end of the summer the grass had outraced the sheep, so a contractor came in with a flail collector and reduced it to a close sward, followed by another contractor who ran a cultivator over it to expose some bare soil. Then we were ready for the seeding party.

Herefordshire Meadows provided us with two huge bags of seed harvested from a site in Titley which, records indicate, has been a wildflower meadow for hundreds of years. Rory from Herefordshire Meadows and Emily from Buglife measured the seed into several dozen buckets, and placed a row of posts in each field. By each post they placed a bucket of seed, and then more buckets half-way across the field. Each volunteer stood by a post, picked up their bucket – and started sowing. It's difficult to judge how much seed you're scattering! Some found their seed ran out before they reached their next bucket, others were more parsimonious and still had seed left when they should have sown it all. But one way or another all the seed was sown, and our reward was tea and a piece of cake or three.

Will the seed come up? We won't know till next spring, and even if it germinates well it will be several years before the fields start to look like properly-established wildflower meadows. But this is an investment for the future: our wildlife needs all the help it can get, and hopefully what we're doing will make a small difference. There's a public footpath (YP19) that runs along the edge of one of the fields, so you can watch its progress. If you want to know more about creating a meadow of your own (no matter how small) visit buglife.org.uk and herefordshiremeadows.org.uk for more information.

Sue Russell

See photo on the opposite page of Peter sowing the wild flower seed



The Quarry Oak at Croft Castle, drawing by Xanthe Mosley.

Xanthe says "It's impossible to describe by pencil this venerable and huge oak... I can walk under the lateral branch, and it was already decades old when William the Conqueror arrived.



Thanks to Sue Russell for the photo from her article on the previous page, and to Graham Brookes for the jay in flight, both at the top of the page.

Thanks also to Carol Clare and Kate Griffiths for their photos of the Harvest Festival in St Leonard's on October 8th at the centre of the page.

The photo to the left is of the St Michael's Hospice garden - see article on page 24.

Croft with Yarpole and Lucton Parish Church Services Nov & Dec 2023



Date	Service	Church	Time
NOVEMBER			
Thursday 2 nd Nov	All Souls Remembrance	Yarpole	5:30pm
Sunday 5 th Nov	Holy Communion – Book of Common Prayer	Croft	9:30
Sunday 12 th Nov	Holy Communion	Yarpole	9:30
Sunday 19 th Nov	Holy Communion – Book of Common Prayer	Yarpole	8:30
Sunday 26 ^h Nov	Themed non Communion service	Croft*	9:30
DECEMBER			
Sunday 3 rd Dec	Holy Communion – Book of Common Prayer	Croft	9:30
Sunday 10 th Dec	Holy Communion	Yarpole	9:30
Sunday 17 th Dec	Carol Service	Croft	4:00pm
Sunday 24 th Dec	Carols round the tree	Yarpole	3:00pm
	Midnight Communion	Eyton	11:30pm
Christmas Day	Holy Communion	Yarpole	9:30
Sunday 31 st Dec	Group service	Orleton	10:30

*The Arts and Crafts exhibition "Made in HR6" will be in Yarpole church on 25th-26th November

Anyone wishing to contact a priest please phone or email:

Rev. Matthew Burns on 01568 614399,
teamvicarwest@leominsterteam.org.uk

To book a funeral, interment, wedding or baptism and for other information please phone: Priory Office 01568 612124

Monday to Friday 9.30 – 1.00

Churchwardens: Oliver Elphick (01568 515303)

Jane Higgins (01568 708390)